

A
LETTER

TO THE
RIGHT HONOURABLE
The EARL of BRADFORD,
Lord Lieutenant of the County of SALOP.

YOUR Lordship's Absence from this County, occasioned by your Attendance in Parliament, obligeth us to transmit to your Lordship the following Account.

The Affidavits annexed, and whereto we crave Leave to refer your Lordship, contain a Representation of certain Facts, which have happen'd on Friday the 31st of *March* last, (being the Commission Day for holding the Assizes for this County) and during the Assizes.

We are very sensible of the evil Example and dangerous Tendency of such tumultuous Proceedings at all times, but more especially, when the Respect due to Her Majesty's Authority, and those Commissioned by Her for the Administration of the Publick Justice, makes it incumbent on all Persons, and more particularly, on those in Authority, not to encourage, but to prevent such Disorders.

But we consider those Seditious Practices with greater Indignation, because they appear to us intended, as a publick Reflection on the late Proceedings in Parliament against Dr. Henry Sacheverell, and such Members of the House of Commons, who appeared in the Service of the House on that Occasion; and were meant to Abett and Justifie the dangerous Tenets, which have been vented by that Person, so highly to the Dishonour of Her Majesty's Government and Administration, and which have received the just Condemnation of both Houses of Parliament.

Your Lordship will find by the Certificate and Affidavit annex'd, that one *Thomas Yewde*—who was concerned in the said Tumultuous Proceedings, hath since that time refused to take the Oaths to the Government.

We

We take Leave to inform Your Lordship further, that during our Attendance at the Assizes, some of us received Intimation of a Design of some Persons concerned in the before-mentioned Tumults, to procure an Address to Her Majesty; but the Sense of the Majority of the Gentlemen, who served on the Grand Jury, and who attended at the Assizes, being well known to be very Opposite to all Seditious Attempts, no such Address was publicly tendred to the Grand Jury in the Manner, wherein such solemn Transactions, really intended for the Honour and Service of the Government, and Peace of the Kingdom, have been usually done.

But, since the Grand Jury have been discharged, and some of them gone out of Town, an Address hath been carried about this Town to many Publick Houses about Ten a Clock at Night, in order to procure Hands to it.

Your Lordship can very well judge, how much of the Sense of this County is expressed in the Opinions of those Persons, who shall appear to have subscribed that Address; but we think, we should have been wanting in our Duty to Your Lordship, if we had not given you this Account of the Clandestine and unusual Manner, by which it hath been obtained.

We cannot doubt of Your Lordship's favourable Reception of this Representation, by which we are desirous to express to Your Lordship our hearty Concern and Regard for the Quiet and Happiness of Her Majesty's Government, and our Dislike of such Shameful and Tumultuous Actions, designed to cast an Odium upon the Proceedings of both Houses of Parliament, to inflame Her Majesty's Subjects, and to disturb the Publick Peace.

The due Consideration of all which Matters, is most humbly submitted to your Lordship, by

YOUR LORDSHIPS

Most Obedient,

Humble Servants,

Robert Corbet.
Edward Leighton.
J. Bridgeman.
George Weld.
John Lacon.

Fr. Berkeley.
Robert Clive.
Barth Beale.
Ro. Edwards.
Thomas Aston.

Whitehall April 10th 1710.

MY LORD,

I Have laid before the Queen, the enclosed Papers, which your Lordship had communicated to me, giving an Account of the disorderly and tumultuous Behaviour of some Persons at or near *Shrewsbury*, the most active of which appears to be a Non-Juror, who seemed by their Actions to set the Government at Defiance, and were endeavouring Clandestinely to procure an Address in the Name of the County, tho' contrary to the Sense of the greater Number, and those the most considerable of the Gentlemen of the Grand Jury, and others present at the Assizes there, upon Matters very unacceptable to Her Majesty: Who did thereupon in a very earnest Manner, express Her Dislike of these Riotous and Seditious Proceedings, promoted by Papists, Non-Jurors, and other Persons, disaffected to the Government, and of dangerous Principles; and did command that Your Lordship should let the Gentlemen, who sent you these Papers know, how graciously She accepts this so seasonable Mark of their Loyalty and Zeal for Her Person and Government, of which She desires the Continuance, in their going on to suppress such Practices, by which the publick Peace is broken, and which tend to nothing less than the total Subversion of our present Happy Constitution, and that it is Her Majesty's Pleasure they should effectually prosecute the Offenders with the utmost Severity of Law. Her Majesty, from what these Gentlemen have already done, does not doubt of their ready Compliance with these Her Commands, and is fully persuaded your Lordship will not be wanting to encourage them in it, by giving them all the Countenance and Assistance in your Power. I am

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's

Most Obedient

Humble Servant,

SUNDERLAND.

